

MEC News

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Campaign Finance

Election Filing Deadlines March 3rd and April 7th ballot issue committees, candidates, and candidate committees filing deadlines are here. [Click here](#) for deadlines for filing 8 Day-Before and 30 Day-After Election reports.

If a successful candidate at an election fails to file the disclosure reports which are required by Chapter 130 RSMo, the candidate cannot take office until the reports are filed.

A successful candidate taking office prior to the 30 Day-After Election report's due date is required to file a disclosure report before taking office. The report should cover activity through the day before taking office.

April Quarterly Reports All committees (**except** successful candidates at the March 3rd St. Louis City Municipal Primary Election who are now candidates at the succeeding April 7th Municipal General Election) are required to file a quarterly campaign finance disclosure report no later than April 15th for the period closing on March 31, 2009.

Single Contributions Greater than \$5,000

These contributions must be electronically filed, within 48 hours of receipt, using the MEC [Campaign Finance Electronic Reporting System](#).

Are There Any Restrictions on When a Complaint can be Filed Against a Candidate in an Election?

Section [105.957](#) and [130.054](#) RSMo., prevent the Commission from 1) accepting a complaint filed against a candidate within fifteen days prior to the election, and 2) accepting a complaint filed against a candidate regarding violation of conflict of interest or lobbying laws within sixty days prior to the primary election through the general election. Complaints can be filed prior to these dates and after the election.

Tech Talk

MEC to Release New Website April 1st. We always welcome feedback and suggested enhancements. Let us know what you think at helpdesk@mec.mo.gov.

Electronic Filing Now Available Candidate committees for public office in any city, county, or special purpose district (schools, fire boards, and ambulance districts, etc.) can electronically file with the MEC. Electronic filing with the Commission fulfills the local reporting requirements. Three simple steps are necessary for you to begin [electronically filing](#).

Personal Financial (PFD)

Annual Filers – Upcoming PFD Filing Deadline!

PFDs must be filed by May 1, 2009 for the time period covered from January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008. If you did not hold the position for the entire 2008 calendar year, the time period covered will be for the dates in which you held the position.

Do I Need to Enter the Time Period Covered and Check One of the Boxes for Question #1 on the

Form? The purpose of question #1 is for you to record whether you are a candidate, appointed, or employed **and** enter the time period for which this PFD covers. In most instances, the time period covered will be from January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008.

Advisory Opinions

Upon written request, the Commission issues Advisory Opinions about campaign finance disclosure, conflict of interest, lobbying and personal financial disclosure. All advisory opinions are available on the Commission's [website](#). Below is a recently issued opinion.

Conflict of Interest

[2009.01.CI.001](#)—Duties performed by a prior public official in a political subdivision.

Lobbying

Lobbyists / Principal Bi-Annual Reports Due

March 15th and May 30th Each lobbyist or lobbyist's principal must file a [List of Principals and Legislative Action](#) (form MO 300-1433) with the Commission by two dates:

March 15th and May 30th. The form should include a general description of proposed legislative action; action by the executive branch or judicial branch of government; or by any official agency, board or commission of state government, which the lobbyist or lobbyist's principal supported or opposed. A report must be filed for each date, but only one report is due from either the lobbyist or the lobbyist's principal.

List of Principals Lobbyists who have added principals are reminded to check and update their information on file to electronically record any changes in principals within one week of any addition, deletion, or change in lobbyist employment or representation.